A

JPP
1/3/47

File No. 459, 7
1905.

Collection No.

2

Mysore Residency.

Pros. Serial Nos. 17 – 26

Subject.

Proposals of the local excise committee to reduce the number of excise shops in the Custom Station.

Previous References.	Later References.

S. 97. (Blue).

DCFP—678S&P—(G.1035)—10-3 30—1,00,000.

R. F.E.—2-1908.—2,000.

RESIDENT'S OFFICE.

Note Sheet.

File No. 459 F of 1905

No 17

Pol
Letter No. 992 dated 6th June 1908
from the Mysore Darbar

SUBJECT.

Reduction of the strength of Country Spirit from 20° U.P. to 25° U.P. sold in retail arrack shops of City & cantt. Bangalore

The Darbar consider it inadvisable to reduce the strength of arrack to 25° U.P. either in the Bangalore city or in other parts of the State. The chief grounds as set forth in paras 1 2. 3. & 4 are:—

(1) The proposed reduction of strength would affect the results of the consumption

(2) Inexplicability of the clause under the existing Contract (including Cantt.) for the manufacture of liquor which will remain in force till June 1910.

Sl 31 f 497 / 01

(3) Difficulty in equalizing the retail prices per dram, ½ a dram and ¼ of a dram in proportion to the reduced strength (25° U.P.) which would be 0—1—10½ per dram

instead of annas 2 per diem of 20 oz. B.P. as at present.

(4) Inducement to consumers of crack to have recourse to illicit distillation or to take to foreign liquor which would be detrimental to the State Excise Revenue

2. The Darbar's letter may in the first instance be forwarded to the Collector Cons Sh, with reference to our letter (of 4), for favor of report with reference to the 3 points now raised above. Draft Endorsement is submitted for approval

11.7.08

17/7

17/7

Encl issued to Collector Cons Sh No 3731 Dt 18.
dt 17th July 1908.

File No.

Liquor Shops in India.—Sir Herbert Roberts asked the Under Secretary of State for India :—Whether the Resolution of the Government of India, dated the 15th August, 1907, directing that local opinion in regard to the number and sites of liquor shops should be consulted more systematically and recorded more definitely, has been carried into effect in all the Provinces of India; whether he can state in how many towns and Municipalities local Committees have been set up for the purpose of advising the Government upon this subject; and to what extent non-official opinion is represented upon these committees.

Mr. Buchanan :—The Secretary of State regrets that he is not in possession of the detailed information necessary for a reply to this question, but he proposes to direct that the three points referred to by my hon'ble friend should receive special notice in the next annual Excise Report of each Local Government.

NT'S OFFICE.

Sheet.

dated

from

SUBJECT.

Is there not a further Report to be expected from the Local Committees about the number & location of shops in Cantonments?

S. B.

6/12

Yes please. The Collectors attention may be drawn to this office letter No. 10879 22nd Feb. 1908.

Draft is submitted for approval.

A.B. 8/12/08

S.C.W.

Seen? Thos 8/12/08

Sir G. H.

D.13

Resolve

E. P.E.—2-1903.—2,000.

RESIDENT'S OFFICE.

Note Sheet.

File No. 459 A
1905.

Letter No. 4177 *dated* 21st Dec. 1905
from The Collector, Coimbatore.
Remarks No 12 of 4. 1. 1906 from do

SUBJECT.

Member for the Local Fund Committee.

The main file has gone up to the Collector, Coimbatore. U.O. on the 18th Dec.
I has not yet returned. may this await return of the papers?
JN
5/1/06

As the matter is urgent, orders may be passed at once, approving the Collector's recommendation.

Draft sent.

5/1/06

Issued R 5/1 1906

Sent

Sd F

61

R. P. B.—9-1908.—2,000.

RESIDENT'S OFFICE.

Note Sheet.

File No. 459. 7. 1909

Letter No. 197 *dated* 18 January 1909
from the Collector, Coimbatore.

SUBJECT.

Reduction of Excise shops in the Coimbatore

Previous papers on the subject have been sent to Camp with a draft letter to the Revenue Board in the matter of weakening the strength of arrack.

The recommendations of the Local Excise Committee in the matter of reducing shops for the year 1909-1910 having been accepted by the Collector may be sanctioned? Draft proceedings accordingly is submitted for approval.

R.
22/1/09 The Committee have generally accepted the Chairman's proposals. re the location of the shops on the reduced scale. The Committee recommend the reduction of only thirty shops by 2 which the Chairman's proposal involved. This

Redaction by J. When the usual
Extra Rates are required from
the Clerks. The usual Practice
of the Office will be known

22/1/09

Issue Draft proceedings ?

TL 24/1/09

Regr

Satisfactory.
SH 24/1/09

Issue proceedings TL 24/1/09

Rec

Issued letter No. 611 dated 29th January 1909 S. 24

R. F. B.—2-1908.—2,000.

RESIDENT'S OFFICE.

Note Sheet.

File No. 4597-1905

D.25

Letter No. 3299 dated 30: September 1908
from the Collector, Coorg Station.

SUBJECT.

Regulation of the strength of liquor sold in the Coorg Station of Mangalore & Mangalore City -

2-h. E
Sc. 1

The orders of the Govt of India in the matter of regulating the strength of liquor are contained in para 13 of the Finance Dept resolution No. 5086 of 15: August 1907. They are mainly to the effect that there should eventually be two strengths of arrack, a low strength of 60° U.P & an higher limit of 30° U.P & that where spirit is sold at present at higher strengths, a reduction of the maximum strength should be carefully carried out so as not to provoke illicit practices. It is required as a first step that in Mangalore the orders at any strengths above 25° U.P should cease. In both the Coorg Station & the Mangalore City, arrack is sold at 20° U.P & the Collector, Coorg Station, who was asked to report on the matter, recommended the adoption of the strengths

Flag K
Paras 8 & 13.

at 25° U.P + suggested that the introduction of the Arbe gauge at 60° U.P be deferred. The Bombay were consulted as it was necessary to prescribe a uniform strength for both the Bangalore City + the C & M Station + they were against the proposed reduction of strength of liquor for reasons given in their letter No. 9929 of 6th July 1908. The Director, C & M Stations, has since reported on the points raised by the Bombay.

2. The general policy of Govt in Excise is to diminish drinking, + the orders in the matter of regulating strength of liquor have been issued after careful consideration. In such circumstances, it does not seem desirable to defer giving effect to those orders on purely financial considerations. It might that Governors who are now habituated to the strength of 20° U.P will be averse to go in for a strength of 25° U.P, but if sufficient precautions be taken to prevent illicit manufacture, they must have no other alternative but to resort to the liquor at 25° U.P which alone will be procurable, as foreign liquor only, it is understood, be more costly than arrack

N.I.7. Hyd.

Sec. Govt. 25° or rather. in the present connection, draft enclosed. J.H.

Notes—continued.

The Director's observations (paragraph 4 of M. 17) as to the necessity for the use of a larger quantity of nitrocotton ingredient in the manufacture of Lyddite of a weaker strength does not appear to be supported by the experience in this connection which has been recorded at the Abbékanai Factory. Coupled with regard to the remarks of the Director in paragraph 3 of their letter (M. 17) regarding the selling price of the proposed Lyddite of 25 lb. N.P., please see paragraph 4 of Mr. Sherman's letter of 3rd August 1908 to the Director's present contract for the manufacture of smack which includes the supply for the Colonies extends up to 30th June 1907, it is submitted that it will not be possible to make a change in the strength of Lyddite to be manufactured before the expiry of the contract unless the Contractor accepts the change, which it is hard to expect circumstances this change will involve a considerable reduction on ~~excess~~ consumption.

If approved, a copy of the Director's letter and of this Office report thereon may be

25
Para 3 of Le
a

His remarks may be summarized in Director's Letter Sheet

25
D. to F. file 45/97
a
1905

I think we should ask the Director to attempt the introduction of the change soon as early as possible.
Sheet

M. 17 & 19

R. P. B.—2-08.—2,000.

the first instance be forwarded d. o to
the Inspector General of Forests in India
with a request that the Resident might be
favoured with his opinion in the matter
at his convenience.

H.
23/10/08

The Durbar apprehend that
any reduction in the strength of
Attock will reduce the Commissioner
to take to foreign liquor. The revenue
on the former goes to Burma a Nat-
ive State and the latter to the British Govt.: but if the "is"
"foreign liquor"
and of the
Durbar's Dictionary
See 7.
The Durbar deem it fair that
the reasons that foreign liquor should
not, to any extent, displace arrack
in the Burma State, and are
aware of any proposal which would
lead to a reduction of their excise
revenue. This seems to be the

Notes—*continued.*

only real reason for their objection
to the change proposed. It rests
on the ground that they opposed
the proposal for the enhancement
of still. heavy duty on arrack, and
that proposal is under consideration
separately, awaiting a report from
the Collr of Sea Customs. Although
present we depend on the Darbar
for the supply of arrack required
for consumption in the Colombo District,
and if such dependence were to
stand in the way of our giving
effect to the necessary reforms
in the excise policy of the Island,
we would be constrained to reconsider
our position & see whether our

S 5-7 pt 459 1/2
1905

could not get our supply from the Madras Presy. as the Coorg Administration does. & thus introduce into Malabar all the reforms adopted in British India. We cannot of course cut away from the Dunbar in the middle before the termination of the present contract, i.e. until 1st July 1910, but in the meantime the advisability of the Malabar getting its future supplies from the Madras Presy. ought to be considered.

28/1/01

Ret

Please read para 13 of G.O. from under Dept Resolution No. 5086 2/15-8-07 on which action has to be taken.

H.E. the Lt. Governor has ordered the first step towards the consumption of a quick spirit, the sale of Arrack in Bangalore above 25° under proof should cease.

At present the C & M Store in Bangalore City sells 20° under proof.

In above resolution Govt forwarded the C & M Store for [illegible] suggestions as to the action to be taken.

C.M. recommended that Arrack 25° under proof should take the place of Arrack 20° under proof: & that the change should take place simultaneously in the City & in the C & M Store.

H. P. B.—2-08.—2,000

Coll's recommendation was forwarded to the Barber for an expression of his views. These are given in his letter No. 992 d/ 6-6-1908 to the Sec'y objecting to Collector's recommendation. The Barber's letter was forwarded to Govt for favour of remarks; to this reply (No. 3295 Rev. d/ 1-10-08) has been received.

The Barber's objections to the proposed reduction to 25° under four heads are as follows:—

(i) The consumers have been accustomed to the present strength 20° U.P. and would resent a further strength

(ii) The existing contract is for the supply of Arrack at 20° U P and does not expire till June 1910

(iii) Arrack 25° U P would contain

Notes—*continued.*

more injurious by-products than Arrack 20° U. P.

(iv) The price of 25° U P Arrack would be uneconomical for trade purposes

(v) To reduce the strength of Arrack to 25° U. P would lead to illicit Distillation or to the consumption of 'foreign' liquor. In either case Ayurvedic Revenues would suffer

Objection (i)

The consumer would undoubtedly resent the introduction of weaker Arrack: but I.S. regards such introduction regardless of the disapproval of the present consumer

Objection (ii)

The introduction of any change should be deferred, I think, till June 1910

Objections (iii) & (iv) are untenable [vide paras 3 & 4 of Superintendent's letter recorded with

Cost's No. 3299

Objection (V)

The proposed change would adversely affect only the Petitioners of the Barber but also those of the C & M Station.

Orders are now required (i) for shifting the Strength of Attack said in the C & M Station after June 1910 is to be reduced to 25° U.P., even if the Barber decides to continue to sell Attack 20° U.P.,

or (ii) whether the reduction shall take place at once: the strength of Attack supplied by the Mysore Station being reduced to 25° 2661 U.P.,

The action recommended at 'A' in the Office note of 23/10/08 does not obviate necessity

Resolve

25/10/08

Notes—*continued.*

The Barbers must be reminded that the principles underlying the Govt. of India order for the retention of the maximum strength of spirit, is to check drunkenness, and unless they are prepared to dispute the correctness of the reasoning on which the Committee & the G.G.O. arrived at their conclusions, it must be assumed that the Barbers will make a effort, even possibly at some sacrifice of revenue, to bring their policy into line with that of British India in order to minimise the dangers from the traffic in drink. I am not aware whether the practice of Victorian

R. P. B.—2-08.—2,000.

of spirit before drinking
is strong in proportion
as described (para: 258
of Report) but judging
from the opposition and hostility
to a reduction in the
strength of the spirit from
20 % to 25° U.P. it would appear that
the practice here is to
drink the strongest drink
If so, attention may be
drawn to the opinion of
Major Bousfield (Chairman)
that even "an diluted 25°
U.P. is too strong to
drink neat" and there
can be no doubt that
the old practice of reducing
liquor too strong as 20 %
must be conjurious to the
health of the people and
strongly to the

Notes—*continued.*

19

2.

The Darbar have raised 5 objections (see 2 & 4 and dealt with in the notes above. In regards objection that the people prefer strong liquor (sweet) it may be pointed out that in other Provinces (para: 25-6 Report) country liquors are extensively used, and that the palate of the people will soon adjust itself to the slightly different of 5-07 in strength, if any other than 25 U.P. anywhere drunkards is found in the Province. This condition is essential and the absence of it is probably why the experiment made in 1893-94 in Kadana Shamiyana was a failure (Similarly no complaint now in the C.P. Station

Particularly in view of the facts stated in the Shamiyana note of 26/11/08. SW 7/12

under the Darbar adopt
the change for the City &
surrounding District)
Objection is in the real
case. If in the Darbar
area, reduction in the
strength of liquor was a disaster
consumers to resort to
foreign liquor (I don't belong
to the district distribution
charges) this ~~should~~
be not only bad for the
State revenue but for
the people to make the
change, since foreign
liquor
the change would not
shorten the temperance
hours of Sale: since
foreign liquor (meaning
the Darbar to mean foreign
spirits) are at present
in quantities so small
as to [illegible] U.P. (Para: 116 of Report)

contrary to
the objects and
-ly is the
policy of Govt:

Notes—*continued.*

But the provisions of the Bombay proposition must be examined in the light of the experience of the Excise Station where 30° U.P. was substituted for 20° U.P. in arrack liquor. See para: 2 of Sl: 19/c. The Abkari says that consumption there considerably. The figures should be examined to see what liquor people drank instead. Was it

(1) Toddy

(2) Country beer.

(3) Foreign liquor.

If the latter was it

(a) Foreign liquor made in India or

(b) Foreign liquor imported by sea. (Vide Copy VII of the print)

It is only in the case of (b) I understand that the local Excise revenue would

be affected; and even then
its consumption of such
liquor by the poorer classes
and the idle wandering tribes
of crafts could be controlled
by strict limitation of the
number of shops for
consumption on the premises.
When we have discussed
the results of the Inspection
Act of 1901-02, we
shall have a better and
if so, how the Durham
objection can be combated.

J. Ch
31/10

No 57033/3-11-08.

Will Cm. C. & H. Sts please see
pp 15-16 of these notes for
fuller information is available
on the points then raised.

T. Copeland
F.A.R.

Cm C. & H. Sts. Exc. Supt. Please report 31-10 on the points raised. Agree 4/11/08.

2-1

With reference to the Hon: the Resident's note, dated 31st Oct. 1908, it does not appear that toddy was more largely resorted to in consequence of the diminished consumption of country arrack in 1901.02. I have this day received from the Officer in charge of the Treasury the Excise figures for a number of years before, including, and after, 1901.02 which show that in that year only 2701 Rs were paid Rs more against 6455 in 1900.01 and 4770 in 1902.03.

(ii) Nor do the figures for beer show that that beverage displaced country arrack. It is true that in 1901.02 the consumption* of beer exceeded that of 1900.01 by 107676 gallons* but this increase seems to have been due to some cause which led to a serious diminution in the quantity of beer drunk in 1900.01. from the effect of which it was recovering in 1901.02. It is possible, however, that the fall in arrack consumption in 1901.02 assisted beer to regain its position with the public.

(iii) With regard to the effect on foreign liquor no figures are available of importations into the Station of liquor manufactured & produced outside of British India. So far as D.N. rum is concerned, consumption reached its ~~maximum~~ highest in 1901.02, when it rose from 285 gs in 1898.99, 660 in 1899.00, 2110 in 1900.01 to 7951 gs in 1901.02; after which it fell 2463 gs in 1902.03, and continued to fall in succeeding years as the consumption of country arrack advanced.

* 1901.02 470502
1900.01 362826.

In any case, your letter No. 1-11 of 1908 appears to contain information for which there is no necessity. Please return it.

S. J.

R. P. B.—7-08.—1,000

Rec'd 16.11.08

22

2. As regards the question whether the public, or any section of it, dilutes aerated waters before drinking it (paragraph 258 Dr. Kay Com. Report 1905-06), aerated waters are kept at each shop to suit the tastes of those persons who desire to dose. Wed 26-11-08

Returned U.O. with the information required and a table showing consumption of Canada, Brent & D.D. Rum since 1898-9. For today only three-tax figures, as given by Mr Sherman, are available.

26/11/08

D.O. sent to C[ommissioner] asking him to call on Mr Sherman to explain matters to F.A.R.

T
2/12 pd

Mr Sherman has explained matters to F.A.R. who has summarized his explanation in his note 2/ 5/12 pd - S.V.

T
5-
12 pd

Statement Shewing the figures of consump
of Bangalore from 1898-99 to 1907-08 (in gallon

No	Year	Arrack	Beer	Double distilled Rum.	To
		Gallons	Gallons	Gallons.	G
1	1898-99	77, 484	5, 16, 456	285	
2	1899-00	69, 891	5, 46, 102	660	
3	1900-01	61, 684	3, 62, 826	2110.	
4	1901-02	38, 417	4, 70, 502	7921.	
5	1902-03	56, 362	5, 47, 938	5758	
6	1903-04	61, 890	5, 01, 102	4789	
7	1904-05	65, 490	5, 06, 682	3450	
8	1905-06	64, 916	4, 45, 230	4550	
9	1906-07	64, 511	3, 97, 872	3650	85
10	1907-08	71, 063	3, 52, 515	3335	97,

Arrack - The consumption of arrack t
first year in which plague made its
The reason for the heavy reduction in
the price from annas 2/- to annas 2-

lion of different classes of liquor in the Ct & M. Station, 5); the figures for toddy being only for the last 2 years.

ddy	Remarks.
llons	
	645·5 tons paid. tin tax
	270·1 tons paid tin tax
	477·2
723	
489½	8. During the last quarter of the year (ie from 3-1-1908), duty on beer was raised from 1 anna to 2 annas per gallon; which accounts for the fall in consumption.

-gan to fall gradually from the year 1898-99 which is the first appearance in Bangalore on 12th August 1898. The year 1901-02 is due to the Contractors' raising per dram and at the same time introducing 30°U.P. instead

Notes-*continued.*

Margin for binding not to be written on.

dam of opinion that the drinking public will resent any change in the strength of country arrack, and their resentment will be further merited if the rate of spirit-based duty is raised. In such a case it is not unlikely that the consumption of foreign liquors will go up. What has to be remembered is that under the advice of the Excise Committee the strength of foreign liquors, such as brandy, whisky, rum etc has been fixed so as not to fall below 25° U.P. and not below 35° U.P. for gin. That is to say it is possible to have these liquors at such strong strengths as 12° to 18° U.P. which is what the Mysore public is accustomed to.

The Mysore Government does not benefit by D.D. rum (and methylated spirit) consumed in the Cantonment - in the former case we take the excise duty and in the latter the tariff rate.

It is also suggested that country spirit is drunk instead of arrack

Sd F

The recommendation may be neglected

Sd F

The comparison between the "foreign liquor" tax in connection with the consideration of the question from the point of view of the customs excise & the customs & excise revenue is entirely out of place. The difference between the foreign liquor & imported liquor is made in favour of the latter on the ground that the latter is manufactured in England

Sd F

R. P. B.—11-08.—1,000

Margin for binding not to be written on.

Mysore State does not benefit either by foreign imported liquors the duty on which is levied at the various ports of entry. Naturally the Durbar is averse to any measure which restricts the use of foreign liquors and its rules are consequently directed against them.

If we act independently of the Durbar and reduce our strength we shall, I fear, have to face smuggling for which our staff is inadequate. Even were we strong enough to cope with such attempted evasions is it worth it? We shall have a large number of prosecutions, perhaps oppression also, and general discontent.

H.C. 5-12-08

[illegible] we cannot act alone S.F.

Notes-*continued.*

Margin for binding not to be written on.

Rec'd with D/ 3/10 08.

Will Rec'd taken ... See for Stevens's

wrs. D/ 26/11 08 & 5/12 08 & the Kirkcaldy Steamm

D/ 1/12 08 [on the note terms].

D.D. Rum is 'foreign liquor' altho

it differs from Arrack only in the method

& class of flavour.

It appears probable that the reduction

in the Strength of Arrack from 20° U.P. to

25° U.P. would be to increase the

consumption of D.D. Rum if it is 'foreign

Liquor'.

The D.D. Rum consumed in the

C. & K. Sts is manufactured in the Byculla

Distillery but the C. & K. Sts receive the

Excise duty thereon. The probability therefore

is that the reduction of the Strength of

Arrack to 25° U.P. would be to the

effect directly the System Revenue.

On merits therefore would be the

This is incorrect as the Dealer do not make Rum using the Arrack supplied by the C. & K. Sts any more than over & the D.D. Rum TL 6/09

Margin for binding not to be written on.

Enclosure

See enclosed letter.

It is clear from the papers I send that what the people dread most is a foreign Power and in this case I am sure the Empire would be behind Durban by this? Surely D.D. run is for much purpose much like France. So far as Constitution is concerned, I presume Durban do not want separation but the Empire supplies to

Also the Durban

Notes—continued.

Margin for binding not to be written on.

any more than they would out of D.D. rain?

And as regards the gypsum territory, how does the action of D.D rain compare with that on orack?

It may be assumed, however, that D.D rain would displace orack to any considerable extent only in the neighbourhood of Rangoon.

1. Further what is the strength of D.D. rain? Is it drawn direct or diluted?

2. Is there any reason to suppose it to be more destructive than orack?

3. Is there any reason to suppose it to be more destructive than orack?

6. Supposing D.D. rain to be stronger than orack & to be drawn direct, so that a smaller quantity

of the words "to and from" Darjeeling, why should not the Darbar increase their excise on tea sent to Tibet so as to prevent its carrying any preference to the injury of the revenue of Sikkim and recognize that the change has got to be made if possible & I shall welcome suggestion to facilitate the carrying out of that intention I

M. G.
7/12

Margin for binding not to be written on.

9 DEC. 1908

No. 660 dd 9-12-08.

Will Collector & St. Steven please supply the information called for in Resident's note dated 7-12-1908.

T. Gyland
F.A.R.

To Mr Stevens C.S. for remarks asap
P. 9.12.08. 7-12-08

Notes—*continued.*

Margin for binding not to be written on.

Reference the Hon'ble the Resident's note dated 7th Dec. 1908.

1. What is the strength of D.T. rum?

20° U.P.—(Read Notification 5107 of 23-12-95).—

2. Is it drunk neat or diluted?

Both, according to the fancy of the consumer. The lower orders drink it neat; the better classes generally add water or aerated water; some Brahmins and others mix it with lemon squash.

3. Is there any reason to suppose it more deleterious than arrack?

None that I am aware of.

4. How would Mysore revenue suffer by competition with Mysore made D.T. rum?

I am not acquainted with the habits of the people of Mysore, or with the excise conditions in that State. From my experience of the people of other parts of India I do not suppose the people of Mysore are specially difficult to deal with. In the Godavari it fell to me to introduce a violent change in the kind of arrack to be supplied and in the method of its distribution. The outstill system had to be replaced by the distillery system, jaggery-arrack had to meet toddy arrack, and sale by independent shops had to be substituted for farms. As was to be expected the arrack revenue suffered for a short time but the people were soon reconciled to the change. Here no such violent change is meditated; the transition from 20° to 25° U.P. is so slight that it is unlikely to attract any notice in rural tracts. In urban areas some

a great fact

Margin for binding not to be written on.

transfer of popular patronage may occur but I do not anticipate that there will be any serious augmentation of the movement towards 'foreign liquor' (including D.D. rum and sophisticated Mysore made sophisticated liquors) which was noticed in the Mysore State Administration Review 1905.06 measures for combating that movement were foreshadowed in the report of that year (paragraph 37) and repealed in the report of 1906.07 (paragraph 22) and have since no doubt, been introduced. In my opinion the true station station, with its military and urban population, is more likely to suffer than Mysore, but even here the inequality that existed in 1901.02 between 'country arrack' and 'D Drum' has been redressed through the raising of the duty on 06.2.06 by the tariff of that year from Rs 6/- to Rs 7/4 on 'D Drum'; and it is only by retailing it at the same price (2annas a dram) that D Drum is able to remain in the market. In 1901.02 the position was inferiority of D Drum by Rs 5/8 against Rs 6/- (please see margin)*.

Country arrack.
Gross rents Rs 371380-0-0
Duty on " 169670-8-6
231050-8-6
Incidence Rs 6/-/9 "

D D rum.
Duty on 7921 gallons Rs 38037-4-10
Rs 4/12/- " gallon exc
say " 12-"
Incidence Rs 5/8/- " agst

ii) I have occasion to suggest that as there are no customs restrictions between Mysore and British India the duty on Mysore made foreign liquors (including methylated spirit) raised at the full tariff rate might be collected by the Durbar officials for the Mysore State at the Cantonment Distillery as a set off to the foreign importations which pay duty at the British Indian ports of entry. On consideration I think it would be better to await the effect of the change in the strength of country arrack.

Is it possible that by arrangement with the British Govt. makes a lump payment towards Mysore's share of Customs duties)?

D Drum consumption 1905.06 — 1,350 g.s 1906.07 — 1,060 g.s
Arrack " " 331,338 " " 372,946 "
Please see pp. 4-5 Mysore 10th Review 1906.07.

Is it how does the incidence on D Drum compare with that on arrack in Mysore?

6. Supposing Arrack, the strength of which is reduced, so that a smaller quantity of it would be sold, why should not the Darbar increase their excise on the remaining part so as to prevent it enjoying any preference to the injury of the revenue?

According to the detailed price of double distilled or rectified spirits and special liquors manufactured at the Government Central Distillery obtainable at the arrack shops specially licensed to sell them, the duty is as under:—

Milk punch --- --- ---		Rs 2. 15. 6	a gallon.
Brandy, Whisky	15° U.P.	" 5. 0. 9	"
"	20 "	" 4. 12. 0	"
Gin. --- ---	15° U.P.	" 5. 0. 9	"
"	20° U.P.	" 4. 12. 0	"
Rum --- ---	15° U.P.	" 5. 0. 9	"
	20° "	" 4. 12. 0	"

which is to say with the exception of milk punch the others are excised at Rs 5/15/- a gallon London proof against the full tariff rate of Rs 7/- levied here and on foreign liquors elsewhere. I believe this is done to protect Mysore made liquors from the competition of foreign imported liquors. Except for this reason I see no reason why these special liquors should not pay the full tariff rate, and thereby reduce the opportunity for competing against country arrack 25° U.P.

H.C.S. 14.12.08

Returned. D.O. with a note by Mr Sherman. He has answered questions marked 1, 2 and 3.

Question 4. As regards consumption in the C. Hn. Station the Revenue of the Durbar would not suffer at all. The

3rd

fit no duty either on D.D. Rum or on Arrack so consumed.

Question 5. The excise on D.D. Rum in Mysore Territory is 5.15 per proof gallon. That on arrack is the same, I believe. This could be checked from the Mysore Administration Report. ~~It may possibly be found at a~~ ~~lower rate on backward parts~~ An

Check this. Shall I. This is correct GV.

Question 6. ~~We did not~~ Mr Sherman has misunderstood the question. I think there would be no reason to alter the duty on D.D. Rum. Suppose a man, instead of buying a gallon of arrack at 25 ~~Op~~ U.P., bought a gallon of D.D. Rum at 20 U.P. He would pay Rs. 4/12 duty instead of Rs. 4/7/3 — as presumably if he bought a smaller quantity with a view to diluting it he would pay Rs. 4/7/3 if his calculating ~~op~~ were correct. That is: so long as he drinks a liquor of the same strength he will pay the same duty. The varying figure is ~~used~~ rent, because D.D. Rum is sold on a fixed fee system instead of an auction system but this the Durbar could alter if they like.

Moreover the argument is that he wants the stronger liquor.

V. Lawley

18.12.08.

21/12/08 The points raised in Rs's note 3/7/12/08 have been answered in Mr Sherman's note 3/16/12/08 read with C's [illegible]

Notes-*continued*.

Margin for binding not to be written on.

At present Arrack is sold in the C & M Stns & in the City at 20° U.P. Reducing S.V. is the reason drunkenness. With that end in view. They desire to encourage the consumption of a weaker spirit & have laid down that as a first step in this direction the sale of Arrack in the C & M Stns shall above 25° U.P. should cease. — If the strength Arrack is so reduced in the C & M. Stns it is necessary Similarly for the Darker should & reduce the strength Arrack which was issued for consumption in Bangalore City & sold also elsewhere in Mysore Territory. The Darker have raised. 5 Rupees for the proposed reduction from 20° to 25° U.P.

Margin for binding not to be written on.

These Objections have been summarized at pp 8 & 9 of the printed notes. Objections 2 & 4 have been disposed of [illegible] of the notes] Objection 1 / 2es been dealt with at p. 13 of the Notes.

Objection 5 remains. This objection is. the contention that the reduction the strength of Arrack to 25°U.P. would lead to illicit Distillation or to the consumption of foreign liquor & that in either case Excise Revenues would suffer. The fear that there would be danger of illicit Distillation is probably groundless, but experience alone can settle this point satisfactorily.

As regards the contention that the reduction the strength of Arrack would lead to

the consumption of 'foreign' liquor in
the Mysore Provinces would suffer in
consequence, Govt has caused certain
enquiries to be made. These seem to
show that a reduction in the strength of
Arrack is likely to lead to increased
consumption of the 'foreign' liquor known as
'D.D. Rum;' but inasmuch as the
Mysore Distillers do not make
Rum nor the Arrack supplied
to the C & S Stations it is not clear how
they would suffer even if the consumption of
Arrack ^ the C & S ceased altogether, while as regards Mysore
Territory to force them the Distillers
manufacture their own D.D. Rum as well
as their own Arrack taken away the

the strength of D.D. Rum of the excise taken as compared with the strength of the Duty on Attack seems to enable the Darker to pursue their business in any way without the substitution of D.D. Rum for Attack

But the consideration which presents itself is this. The object of H.M. is to reduce drunkenness. Any step to further this object by reducing the strength of Attack from 20° to 25° U.P. Local experience however shows that such a measure would probably lead to a considerable increase in the consumption of D.D. Rum, the strength of which is 20° U.P. The advice of the Excise Committee is that the strength of Rum should not be below 25° U.P.

Margin for binding not to be written on.

Yes I think we may however omit the words in Italics. The D.D. Rum would complete only in Attack would in it would be the strongest liquor publicly sold & that in addition to the slightly weaker liquor if we allow Attack to be sold.

39

If the Strength of Attack is reduced from 20° to 25° U.P. it would similarly be seen whether the reduction of strength by D.D. Runs.

We can see in a position to reply the objections raised by the Doctor in this letter of 2/6/1908.

Will Rudd please say whether the Water should include the point just raised — viz. the reduction of the Strength by Runs from 20° to 25° U.P.?

Rudd

See enquiries letter.

We may now advise the Doctor.

Please prepare carefully, bringing by emphasising the practical aim since as in my letter of 31/12 to the Provost to avoid other specific objections.

Sir F.
4/1/09.

Think it would be sufficient to point out the possibility of reducing the strength by D.D. runs & the effect of reducing Runs by D.D. runs, neglected, replaced wholly to any considerable extent in Bangalore. Even if it is not possible to isolate D.D. runs by weather records, the net effect of the change in the strength of Attack, between now the State is a valuable one by diminishing in the direction of lessening Inoculation. G

Sir F.

6/1/09

R. P. B.—7-08.—1,000.

Draft letter to the Director of Engineering sent up for approval.

S.
6/1/09. C.
19/1/09

Herewith draft for C.C.'s approval.

Before issue to G.I. it would perhaps be well to send the draft to Collector C & the Sty for perusal and for favour of suggestions as to anything which he considers ought to be added.

R.
25/1/09
G. Kapokhu

C.

Thanks. Yours.

Sh. F.
25/1

R.
26/1/09 G. Kapokhu

In view of the formation of the Estate Council contemplated, I do not think this necessary.
Sh. F.

Vide Draft.

Issued No. 6282 1.2.09.

RESIDENT'S OFFICE.

—:o:—

NOTES AND PRECIS.

R. P. B.—6-05.—1,000.

G.R.S. 48]

GOVERNMENT OF H. H. THE MAHARAJA OF MYSORE.

RESIDENT'S OFFICE, BANGALORE. Register No. 2878 Date of Receipt 8/6/08

GENERAL AND REVENUE SECRETARIAT,

Dated Bangalore, 6th June 1908.

From

K. S. CHANDRASEKHARA AIYAR, ESQ., B.A., B.L.,

Secretary to the Government of His Highness the Maharaja of Mysore,

General and Revenue Departments.

F. P. RENNIE, Esq., I. C. S.,

First Assistant to the Hon'ble the Resident in Mysore.

SIR,

With reference to your letter, No.699, dated the 3rd February 1908, regarding the regulation of the strength of liquor sold in the Civil and Military Station and the Bangalore City, I am directed to reply as follows:—

The principle of regulating the strength of liquor was first introduced in the State in 1862, when, with a view to organize properly the system of deriving revenue from the manufacture and sale of spirituous liquors in Mysore, the Sadar Distillery system was introduced. Under this system, it was a condition that the Distillers should not remove any liquor from the Distillery except at the prescribed strength of 19° U.P. The retail vendor was bound to sell only the liquor supplied by the Distillery to which

GPB—5,000—22-2-07

his shop was attached without diluting or adulterating it. These conditions exist even to this day, under the present contract Distillery system. Liquor is now issued from the Government Central Distillery at Bangalore, at the strength of 20° U.P. to ~~all~~ places within 50 miles thereof and 19.5° U.P. to all places beyond 50 miles. Thus, for over 40 years, arrack of the strength of 20° U.P. is being issued in the State. The arrack drinker in Mysore has, therefore, become inured to the liquor of 20° U.P. An attempt made in 1893-94 to reduce the strength of the liquor in the Districts of Kadur and Shimoga, on the representation of the North Mysore Planters' Association fell through, owing to the fact that the people were not satisfied with the weaker liquor and required the one of the usual strength of 20° U.P.

2. Apart from this consideration such a change is also impracticable at present under the existing contract for the manufacture of liquor which will remain in force till June 1910. It is an admitted fact that the liquor used ~~shall~~ should be quite free from all impurities in order that it may not be injurious to health. Pure spirit can be obtained only when it is distilled at a low temperature and at a high strength. A condition of the manufacturing

contract in Mysore is that the Distiller is bound to use only distilled water to reduce the liquor to the standard strength. In order to produce weaker liquor, a larger quantity of distilled water is required, necessitating extra cost to the manufacturer. He will therefore try to distil liquor at as low a strength as is consistent with the prescribed minimum, in order to avoid manufacturing a larger quantity of distilled water. There being no restriction as to the strength at which liquor should be distilled, the by-products which are the only injurious ingredients in the ordinary arrack in such a distillation will proportionately be greater than if the liquor were distilled at a higher strength. On these considerations, the proposed reduction of the strength of the liquor seems to be inadmissible in the interests of the consumer.

3. Again, the cost price of arrack of 25° U.P., including "duty" will be Re. 0-1-7, per dram, to the retail vendor. Calculating upon the existing fixed rate of 2 annas per dram, of 20° U.P. the retail vendor will have to sell the 25° U.P. liquor at Re. 0-1-10½, per dram. But the retail vend rate of 25° U. P. liquor can only be either Re. 0-1-8 or 0-2-0, per dram, as fractions of a pie will

have to be avoided in the case of full, half and quarter drams. In the former case, (0-1-8), the retail vendor will not have margin ~~xxxx~~ enough even to meet his working expenses and in the latter case (0-2-0), the consumer will have to pay a higher price for ~~the~~ a weaker liquor and will have to spend more for his drink. The price will afford a larger margin of profit to the retail vendor and as a consequence, the rental may rise disproportionately high against the accepted principle that the fixed duty should be the main factor in the taxation. The undesirability of enhancing the still head duty has been already explained in the Durbar's letter of the 2nd January 1908 (Pol.No.525) to which reference is invited.

4. Further, the Durbar are quite convinced that any reduction in the strength of the liquor must induce the ~~the~~ consumers either to have recourse to illicit distillation or to take to foreign liquor. As long as the duty on foreign liquor consumed in the State is credited to the British Government, it would, the Durbar consider, be to the prejudice of the State's revenue to adopt any measure which may tend to increase the consumption of foreign liquor at the cost of ~~the~~ country spirits and liquors. In this connection I am to invite reference to paras 4 and 5 of the

8C 50 459 A
05

Durbar's letter, Pol.No.525, dated 2nd January 1908.

5. For the foregoing reasons, the Durbar consider it inadvisable to reduce the strength of arrack to 25 U.P. either in the Bangalore City or in other parts of the State.

I have the honor to be,

Sir,

Your most obedient servant,

Secretary to Government.

M. V.

R. P. S.—12-07.—2,000.

RESIDENT'S OFFICE.

Serial No. 18
File No.

[D R A F T.]—For approval.

From

F. P. RENNIE, Esq., I. C. S.,
1st Assistant to the Resident in Mysore.

To

No 3731
17th July 06

Cl 7

(Here enter Darbar letter Pol No 992 of 6 June 1906)

A Copy of the foregoing letter is forwarded to the Collector ~~of~~ in Sh. Bangalore, with reference to para. 8 & 9 ~~of Confidential memo of this office~~ his letter No. 248 dated ~~3 February~~ 21 January 1906, for favour of early report with special reference to the Darbar's observations contained in paragraphs 2, 3, 4 ~~of the~~ thereof.

Cl 7 3

for favour of remarks on the points raised by the Darbar

7 Feb

13/2/06 Sec 16/2/06

(Continuation of Draft.)

letter

sd 16

Sd/ J. P. Rennie.
Asst Asst Paymr.

11.7.08

R. P. B.—9-08—2,000.

RESIDENT'S OFFICE. 19.

Serial No. 1
File No. 457/1905

[DRAFT.]—For approval.

From

B. COPELAND, Esq., I. C. S.,
1st Assistant to the Resident in Mysore.

To The Collector, & ex-officio
Sessions Judge of Bangalore

No. 6646
Dated 11th December 1908.

I am directed to invite a reference to this office letter No. 1087 dated the 22nd February 1905 regarding the number of Sessions for the Civil Station of Bangalore, & to enquire when the proposals therein referred to may be expected.

I have, etc.,

R. 8/12/08
for Asst. to Resident

A.13

A.1.
8/12/'8. J.H.

R. P. B.—5-08.—400.

No. 4177 4/III

OFFICE OF THE COLLECTOR,
CIVIL AND MILITARY STATION, BANGALORE.
Dated 21st December ,1908 .

FROM

P. L. Moore ESQ., I. C. S.,
COLLECTOR,
CIVIL AND MILITARY STATION,
BANGALORE.

RESIDENT'S OFFICE,
BANGALORE.
Register No. 6593
Date of Receipt 23-12-08
File No. 457/08

2/1/09

TO T. B. Copeland, Esquire, I. C. S.,
THE FIRST ASSISTANT TO THE HONOURABLE THE RESIDENT
IN MYSORE.

SIR,

Referring to the order of the Honourable the Resident , No: 826 dated 11th. February 1908, appointing the members of the Local Excise Committee of the Station , I have the honor to recommend that as Mr. Standish Lee ceased to be a Municipal Commissioner of the Station , Mr. C. Haudin, the present Municipal Commissioner of the v Division be appointed a member of the Committee.

I have the honor to be,

Sir,

Your most obedient servant ,

COLLECTOR.

MDJ.

RESIDENT'S OFFICE,
BANGALORE.
Register No. 44
Date of Receipt 5-1-09
File No. 455/1907

Civil File 21

R. P. B.—5-08.—400.

No. 12 OFFICE OF THE COLLECTOR,

CIVIL AND MILITARY STATION, BANGALORE.

Dated 4th January *1909*.

FROM

P. L. Moore ESQ., I. C. S.,
COLLECTOR,
CIVIL AND MILITARY STATION,
BANGALORE.

To T. B. Copeland, Esquire, I. C. S.,
~~THE~~ FIRST ASSISTANT TO THE HONOURABLE THE RESIDENT
IN MYSORE.

SIR,

I have the honor to invite a reference to this office -- letter No: 4177 dated 21st. December 1908, and to request that the sanction therein asked for, for the nomination of Mr. C. Haudin as a member of the Local Excise Committee, may kindly be accorded at an early date.

I have the honor to be,

Sir,

Your most obedient servant,

P. L. Moore

Collector.

R. P. B —9-08 —2,000.

RESI[illegible]E. 22

Serial No.
File No.

[D R A F T .]—For approval.

From

T. B. COPELAND, Esq., I. C. S.,
1st Assistant to the Resident in Mysore.

To

No 103
8/17th January 1909.

Read:-

Letter no. 4177 of the 21st Dec 1908. from the Collector, Civil & Mily. Station Bangalore, recommending that Lieut. J. Hamilton, Municipal Commr. no. V Division, be appointed a member of the Local Excise Committee vice Mr Standish Lee who has ceased to be a Municipal Commr.

Order.

The recommendation is approved ~~proposal is sanctioned~~

T 5/1/09
F. A. R.

To The Collector
Civil Station Bangalore

5.1.09

NMK
5.1.09

2/1/09 B. P. B.—5-08.—400. 23

No. 197 Revenue

OFFICE OF THE COLLECTOR,
CIVIL AND MILITARY STATION, BANGALORE.

Dated 18th January 1909.

FROM

P. L. Moore ESQ., I. C. S.,
COLLECTOR,
CIVIL AND MILITARY STATION,
BANGALORE.

...NT'S OFFICE,
...NGALORE.
Diary No. 330
Date of Receipt 20-1-09
File No. 4591 of 05 To....

T. B. Copeland, Esquire, I. C. S.,
THE FIRST ASSISTANT TO THE HONOURABLE THE RESIDENT
IN MYSORE.

The Inspector has come to Camp. Draw Mr. Rennie's attention to para 2 of this letter for his remarks

SIR,

I have the honor to refer to the correspondence ending with Mr. Rennies letter No. 1087 dated the 22nd. February 1908 on the subject of reducing the number of Excise Shops in the Station.

2. In pursuance of the orders of the Honourable the Resident, the question was again brought before the Local Excise Committee which met this morning and I enclose a copy of the proceedings recorded by them. It will be seen that the Committee recommend after a careful consideration of the subject a further reduction of the shops as follows:-

Arrack - - - - from --- 15 to 12.
Beer - - - - from --- 15 to 13.
Foreign liquor from --- 8 to 6.
Toddy - - - from - -- 8 to 6.

A copy of Mr. Sherman's letter explaining the reasons for making this further reduction is enclosed.. The Committee were not -- prepared to come to a decision as to the " minimum " number of shops as sufficient experience has not yet been gained to enable them to say to what extent reduction may be possible in the -- future.

3. I concur with the recommendations of the Committee and request that the approval of the Honourable the Resident to the above proposal

proposal may be obtained and communicated to me at a very early date in order that the sale notifications for the next year may issue as soon as possible.

I have the honor to be,

Sir,

Your most obedient servant,

Collector.

23/a

Proceedings of the Local Excise Committee recorded on the morning of the 16th. January 1909.

The Committee recommend the following reductions :-

Arrack - - - - - -	from -----	15 to 12.
Beer - - - - - - -	from ----	15 to 13.
Foreign Liquor - -	from ----	8 to 6 .
Toddy - - - - - - -	from ----	8 to 6.
	Total --	46 to 37 .

The Committee have no recommendations as to sites except that the Extension shops should be removed further along Tannery Road.

Sd/. Pierce Moore,
Sd/. P. Hannyngton,
Sd/. V. A. Rajaratna Moodr.,
Sd/. W. H. Johnson,
Sd/. M. V. Cooposawmy Chetty,
Sd/. B. P. Annasami Moodr.,
Sd/. C. Haudin,

" C o p y "

Collector.

23/6

Letter No. 955 dated the 11th. December 1908 from the -- Superintendent of Excise of the Station to the Collector, Civil and Military Station, Bangalore.

With reference to letter No. 1087 dated 22nd. February '08 from the First assistant to the Resident in Mysore, I have the honor to submit for consideration licesing proposals for 1909-1910.

2. In response to the declared policy to restrict as far as possible, the number, and determine the location of liquor shops with a view to minimise the temptation to drink, and to conform as far as is reasonable to public opinion, the number of licenses last year was reduced as below :-

Description of license.	Number in 1907-08.	1908-09.
1. Arrack shop, for the sale of country spirit to be consumed on the premises.	20.	15.
2 Toddy Shops.	9	8.
3. Beer Tavern, for the sale of Country beer to be consumed on the premises.	23.	15.
4. Foreign liquor Tavern.	11.	8.
	Total reduction	17.

I propose to examine by the figures for consumption the -- effect of the reduction on the different classes of beverage and from that examination to come to decision on the question whether the reduction has been carried sufficiently far :-

	1907-08.			1908-09		
Description of Liquor	Population	Gallons Consumption 9 months to 30/6/07.	Incidence per head	Population	Gallons Consumption 9 months to 31/3/08	Incidence per head.
1. Arrack	Civil 83382 Mily. 10520 Total 93842.	47451	0.50	Civil 83376 Military 11536 Total 94912.	48060	0.50.
2. Beer (Country)		250992	2.64.		185436	1.92
3. " (Foreign Liquor)		26790	0.22		19062	0.20.

3. The examination thus conducted shows that the reduction in the

the number, and the wider dispersion of shops has not tended to diminish the consumption of arrack though it would appear to have accomplished the object in the case of beer and especially of country beer. (No figures for toddy consumption are at hand but even if available they would be unreliable. The number of trees on which tree-tax was paid this year exceeds by 100 the number for the same period last year, and would indicate a slight increase in consumption probably at the expense of Country beer). From this it ~~may~~ might be inferred that the object aimed at had been attained in the one instance and that a further reduction seems desirable to bring about the desired result for arrack. Before accepting this deduction as conclusive it is essential that there were no other causes at work likely to effect the result; on enquiry it will be found that whereas there was no disturbing factor in the case of arrack the raising of the duty on beer in the begining of the current calendar year did undoubtedly exercise an influence in reducing the consumption of that article. --- Regarded in this light diminution in the incidence of consumption per head of population can scarcely be said to have been attained though a reduction in the number of shops in the one case any more than in the other. In the circumstances a general reduction in the number of liquor shops seems imperative. I accordingly suggest that the present number of shops be accepted as the maximum and that the minimum numberbe fixed as in the margin for each class of liquor license at the rate of 7909 population per ~~toddy~~ arrack shop; 13558 population per toddy shop; 7300 population per beer tavern; and 15818 population per --- foreign liquor tavern, which would be well within the margin of not less than 5000 population per shop recommended by the Excise Committee.

Class.	Maximum.	Minimum.
1. Arrack.	15	12.
2. Toddy.	8	7.
3. Beer.	15	13.
4. F.L. Tavern.	8	6.

4. The location of the shops on the lower scale will have to be determined by the Local ~~Excise~~ Committee formed as suggested in paragraph 5 of Government of India Resolution No. 5086 Exc., dated 15th. August 1907. To assist the Committee to a decision I would advise the closure of the arrack shops in Arunachella Mudali, Ebrahim sahib ~~street~~ and Jewellers' street, of the toddy

shops in Old Poor House Road, of the beer taverns in Dharmaraja street and Nulla Road; and of the foreign liquor taverns (formerly known as refreshment rooms) in New Market and Thimmiah Roads. It would also be advisable to move the sites of the arrack and toddy shops in Grass Cutters lane to a wider thoroughfare such as Thimmiah Road. Some of the shops I have suggested for closure pay the highest vend rents and dispose of the largest transactions and for that reason I confess to a reluctance to their abolition. If however, a diminution in consumption is to be attained some sacrifice must be made.

" C o p y "

Collector.

R. P. B.—1-09.—1,000.

RESIDENT'S OFFICE.

24

Serial No.

File No. 4597

4v

[D R A F T .]—For approval.

From

T. B. COPELAND, Esq., I. C. S.,

1st Assistant to the Resident in Mysore.

~~To~~

Proceedings of the Resident in Mysore

No. 611

dated 29th January 1909.

Read:—

Letter No. 197 dated the 18th January 1909 from the Collector, Co. Station of Bangalore, recommending the following proposals of the Excise Committee ~~in the matter of the reduction~~ for reducing the number of Excise shops in the Co. Station for the year 1909-1910:—

Arrack shops from 15 to 12

Beer shops from 15 to 13

Foreign liquor shops from 8 to 6.

Toddy shops from 8 to 6.

Order

The proposals contained in the letter read above are sanctioned.

T. 24/09

Sd/- [illegible]

To the Collector, Co. Station of Bangalore.

No. 271/09

Sd/- [illegible] First Asst. to Resident

2/11/1 25

R. P. B.—5-08.—400.

No. 3299 Rec. 1

OFFICE OF THE COLLECTOR,
CIVIL AND MILITARY STATION, BANGALORE.
Dated 1st September 1908.
desp: 1st October 1908

9:10:08

FROM
RESIDENT'S OFFICE,
BANGALORE.
Register No. 14930
Date of Receipt 2-10-08.
File No. 1-2-21405
To

F. J. Richards ESQ., I. C. S.,
Offg: COLLECTOR,
CIVIL AND MILITARY STATION,
BANGALORE.

P. L. Moore Esqre, I. C. S.,
Offg: FIRST ASSISTANT TO THE HONOURABLE THE RESIDENT
IN MYSORE.

SIR,

Sl 18

With reference to your endorsement No: 3731 dated the 17th July 1908 forwarding for my remarks letter No: 992 dated the 6th June last from the Mysore Darbar on the Subject of the regulation of Strength of liquor (arrack) sold in Bangalore City and the civil and Military Station, I have the honor to forward herewith copy of a letter dated 3rd August last, No: 609, from the Superintendent of Excise Mr. Sherman, in which he deals fully on the points referred to in the Darbar's letter. Mr. Bennett, the Abkari Deputy Commissioner of Madras has, it will be seen, been consulted in the matter and that his views are embodied

in Mr: Sherman's letter. Personally I am in favor of the proposal of the Excise Committee which has been generally approved of by the Government of India in paragraph 13. of their Finance Department Resolution No: 5086 dated 15th August 1907. But in the circumstances explained by the Darbar it does not seem practicable at present to carry out the proposal during the currency of the present lease with the manufacturers. At the same time it seems to me as pointed out by the Excise Superintendent in paragraph 2 of his letter that the effect of any change in the existing Strength of the Spirit in the manner Suggested must affect the Excise revenue of the Station. S 101

I have the honor to be,

Sir,

Your most obedient Servant;

H V [illegible]

Offg: Collector.

Copied by Mallu 30/9.

Compared by [illegible] 30/9/07

29
a

Letter No: 609 dated the 3rd August 1908 from the Superintendent of Excise to the Collector, Civil and Military Station, Bangalore.

With reference to your endorsement No. 2535 dated 23rd July 1908 calling for my views on the points raised by the Mysore Darbar in letter Sel. No: 992 dated the 6th July 1908, I have the honor to remark that as the sting is in the tail so the crux of the whole objection to a change in the strength of Country arrack to the Consumer appears to lie in the penultimate paragraph of the Darbar's letter.

8 17

2. Into the question of the Darbars grievance regarding the diversion of the duty on foreign (imported) liquor it is not my province to enter. Of the various objections advanced in opposition to any change the only argument, in my opinion, worth consideration is the fact that the people have been habituated since 1862 to liquor of 20° U.P. That the Darbar's conviction "that

any

any reduction in the Strength of the liquor must induce the consumers either to have recourse to illicit distillation or to take to foreign liquor" Seems to receive some support from the experience in this Station in 1901-02 when liquor of the Strength of 30° U.P. was substituted for liquor of 20° U.P. to which the public had been accustomed. The effect of the change was that Consumption in that year fell to 38417 gallons against an average annual Consumption of 71850 and 62164 gallons respectively during the four years immediately preceding and succeeding the change. The Dunbar's own experience in 1893-94 is also an argument in favor of the Status quo.

3. The 2nd? contention of the Darkar in the 3rd paragraph of the letter under notice, involves Chemical opinion, and I accordingly referred it to Mr. Bennett, Abkari Deputy Commissioner of Nasrao. In regard to the Statement that "the liquor used should be quite free from all

all impurities in order that it may not be injurious to health," Mr. Bennett replies - this means "Rectified Spirit". Major Bedford has proved after Sampling liquor from all parts of India made under the most varying Conditions that where Sugar is used as the basis of alcoholic wash, the amount of toxic impurities found in the Spirit obtained from such wash, is infinitesimal and has no effect on the drinker." Mr. Bennett adds: "They say "pure Spirit" is not for potable purposes. pure Spirits are not required and so far as the Mysore distillery is concerned are not obtained". He considers it "a mere quibble to talk about the increased cost of production of 30° U.P. as against 20° U.P., as it is "obviously immaterial to the distiller whether he distils his liquor a little weaker or whether he distils a little more distilled water. The difference in the amount of by products in liquor of 20° U.P. and 30° U.P. respectively may be

absolutely/

absolutely disregarded. Mr. Bennett says Mr: Stafford who is in charge of the distillation in the Dupne Central Distillery, told him "they always distilled at or about proof"; and he adds "liquor at anything less than 40° U.P. cannot be considered pure". In this connection it is interesting to hear what was said in the battle of Stills - pot - and patent - in the celebrated prosecutions instituted a couple of years ago by the Borough of Islington. In regard to the expression "impurities". Dr. Teed, the public Analyst, said he would "prefer to call them "Secondary products" or "non - alcoholic Constituents." Dr. Muriel, another witness, called for the pot still, said "the by products were the most potent factors in medical practice, and he knew that on the manufacture of Silent Spirit the by products were eleminated." He gave it as his opinion that "the pure alcohol of the Pharmacopoeia would be absolutely useless and was never prescribed "as a Stimulant.

4. With regard to paragraph 3 of the Darbar's letter, the records at my disposal do not supply details to show how the minimum Sale price of two annas per Imperial dram of the Strength of 20° U.P. was arrived at and fixed in proceeding of the Honble the Resident in Mysore, No. 2601 dated 27th May 1904. The cost price of arrack of 20° U.P. (inclusive of duty) to the retail vendor is one anna 8.43 pies, the difference 3.57 pies probably represents vend rent and profit per dram. On this basis the minimum Sale price of a dram of 25° U.P. would be 1 anna 10.57 pies or say 1 anna 10 pies, and this can be fixed by Notification as I see no reason why a 1/4 dram should not be sold at 6 pies, a 1/2 dram 11 pies and a 3/4 dram at 1 anna 4 pies. However, a reference is invited to the existing Contract of the Durbar for the manufacture of liquor till 1910 referred to in para 2 of the letter under reply and this has practically

been

been accepted by the Resident. (Vide Resident's No: 2161 dated 12 April 1905 to the Collector)

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From

T. B. COPELAND, Esq., I. C. S.,
FIRST ASSISTANT to the RESIDENT in MYSORE.

To

The Dewan of Mysore.

Dated Bangalore, 1st February 1909.

Sir,

I am directed to acknowledge the receipt of Mr.Chandrasekhara Aiyar's letter No.992 Pol., dated the 6th June 1908, giving the views of the Durbar on the proposals made in this office letter No.699, dated the 3rd February 1908, viz., (1) to reduce the strength of the Arrack sold in the Civil and Military Station of Bangalore and in Bangalore City from 25° to 20° U.P. and (2) to fix the sale price of a Mysore dram to the retail vendor at Re.0-1-7 per dram (based upon the following:-

(1)

Cost price Rs.0-8-2 per gallon
Duty Rs.4-7-3 ,,

2. In reply, I am to remind the Durbar that, with a view to decrease drunkenness, the Government of India desire to discourage the consumption of strong spirit and they have laid it down that as a first step in this direction the sale of arrack in the Civil and Military Station at any strength above 25° U.P. should cease. If the strength of arrack is to be so reduced in the Civil and Military Station, it is necessary that a similar reduction should be made in the strength of arrack intended for consumption in Bangalore City and, indeed, also in other areas throughout Mysore territory. In placing, however, the

following

following considerations before His Highness' Government, the Resident desires to make it clear that his recommendations are not based upon the interests of the Civil and Military Station alone, but that, in his opinion, the measure advocated is equally in the interests of the Mysore State, whose Excise policy it is understood, is directed upon the same temperance principle as have been adopted by the Government of India. Mr Fraser is not aware whether the practice of dilution of spirit before drinking is spreading in Mysore as elsewhere (paragraph 258 of the Committee's Report) but judging from the opposition anticipated to a reduction in the strength of the spirit even from 20 U.P. to 25 U.P., it would appear that the practice here is to drink the arrack "neat". If so, the attention of the Durbar is invited to Major Bedford's opinion that even "undiluted 25° U.P. is too strong to drink "neat" and there can be no doubt that the existing practice of selling liquor so strong as 20° U.P. must be injurious to the health of the people and stands in need of early reform.

3. The Durbar have raised the following objection to the proposed reduction of the strength of spirit from 20° U.P. to 25° U.P. in Bangalore City and in other parts of the Mysore State.

(i) The consumers have been accustomed to the present strength of 20° U.P. and would resent the introduction of arrack of a lower strength.

(ii) The existing contract is for the supply of arrack at 20° U.P. and does not expire until June 1910.

(iii) Arrack 25° U.P. would contain more injurious by products than arrack 20° U.P. as the proposed change would lead to distilling at a lower strength in order to avoid the necessity of adding a larger quantity of distilled water than at present.

(iv) The price of arrack 25° U.P. would be inconvenient for trade purposes

(v) The reduction of the strength of arrack to 25° U.P would

would lead to illicit distillation or to the consumption of "foreign liquor", resulting in either case in loss to the Mysore revenues.

4. As regards objection (i), I am to point out that in several provinces of British India (paragraph 256 of the Excise Committee's Report) weaker liquors are extensively used, that, as it is, many consumers dilute arrack before drinking it, that for this purpose aerated waters are kept in the shops licensed for consumption on the premises and that the palate of the people will doubtless soon adjust itself to the difference of 5° involved in the proposal now under consideration if no other than 25° U.P. arrack is sold anywhere in the Mysore State. This last condition is essential, and the absence of it was probably the cause of the failure of the experiment made in 1893-94 to introduce a weaker liquor into the districts of Kadur and Shimoga

5. The Resident recognizes the force of objection (ii) and if the contractor cannot be induced to modify the term of his contract the introduction of the change might be deferred until June 1910.

6. Objection (iii) was referred for expert opinion to Mr.Bennett, Abkari Deputy Commissioner of Madras. With reference to the statement in paragraph 2 of the letter under acknowledgment that the "liquor used should be quite free from all impurities in order that it may not be injurious to health", Mr.Bennett states that this description is applicable to "Rectified spirit" and not to arrack manufactured for ordinary consumption. Major Bedford, I.M.S., has proved after sampling liquor from all parts of India manufactured under the most varying conditions that where sugar is used as the basis of the alcoholic wash the amount of toxic impurities found in the spirit obtained from such wash is infinitesimal and has no effect on the drinker. It is understood that for drinking purposes it is necessary to have a technically pure spirit and that so far as the Mysore Government distillery is concerned a pure spirit in this meaning of the term is not at present obtained. The

Abkari

Abkari Deputy Commissioner doesnnot consider that any increase of cost will be involved in the production of spirit 25° U.P. as against 20° U.P. inasmuch as it appears immaterial to the distiller whether he distils his liquor a little weaker or whether he distils a little more water to reduce the liquor to the strength required. Mr.Bennett is also of opinion that the difference in the amount of by-products in liquor of 20° U.P. and 25 U.P. respectively, is so small as to be altogether negligible. Moreover there appears to be reason to believe that liquor is invariably distilled at or about proof in the Bangalore distillery. Apart, however, from these technical considerations, it appears sufficient to recall the fact that spirit of 25° U.P. and of strengths as low as 50 U.P. are already being consumed in British India for the very reason that they are less injurious to health than spirit of higher alcoholic strength.

7. With regard to objection (iv), it is observed that the minimum sale price of a Mysore dram of arrack 20° U.P. is fixed at two annas while the cost price to the retail dealer inclusive of duty is 1 anna 8.43 pies, the difference, viz., 3.57 pies, probably representing vend rent and profit. On this basis, the minimum sale price of a dram of 25° U.P. would be 1 anna 10.57 pies or say 1 anna 10 pies and this price could be fixed when arrack of 25° U.P. is sold. It would then be possible to sell fractions of a dram as follows:-

½ dram	...	6 pies
⅓ dram	...	11 pies.
¾ dram	...	1 anna 4 pies.

8. With reference to objection (v), I am to say that Mr.Fraser sees no cause for apprehending that the proposed reduction in the strength of arrack will lead to an increase of illicit distillation and he is unaware of the grounds upon which such an apprehension can be based. It is unlikely that this measure will attract much notice in rural tracts, and at all events the public taste in the State generally would soon adjust itself as it has done elsewhere to the slightly weaker liquor

if

if no other arrack were obtainable and the necessary vigilance observed to prevent illicit distillation. In the neighbourhood of Bangalore and the Kolar Gold Fields, the effect of the change might in the beginning affect the consumption of arrack adversely, but as happened in the Civil and Military Station in 1901-02 when the strength of arrack was tentatively reduced from 20° U.P. to 30°U.P. a fall in the consumption of arrack would not improbably be accompanied by a rise in the consumption of doubl distilled rum ("foreign liquor" manufactured in the Mysore Government Distillery). So far as the Resident is aware there is no evidence to render it likely that "foreign liquor" in the sense of liquor imported from outside India, which pays no duty to the State, would replace arracks. In any case, then the excise revenue of the Mysore State is not likely to be materially affected. For, seeing that the Durbar do not derive any income from the arrack supplied to the Civil and Military Station, it is obvious that they would not suffer even if the consumption of arrack in the Civil and Military Station ceased altogether while, as regards Mysore territory, the fact that the Durbar m manufacture their own D.D.rum as well as their own arrack, the strength and sale of which can be controlled and regulated by the Mysore Excise Department, will enable the Durbar to prevent any substantial loss of revenue resulting to the State from the displacement of arrack by D.D.rum. In this connection I am to suggest that it might be possible to reduce the strength of D.D.rum to 25° U.P. if experience proved that undiluted D,D.rum replaced arrack to any considerable extent in Bangalore and the Kolar Gold Fields. But even if it is not possible to make D.D. rum of weaker strength, the net effect of the change in the strength of arrack over the State as a whole will be distinctly in the direction of lessening drunkenness.

9. As the object ~~embodying~~ underlying the Excise policy of the Government of India in this matter is the endeavour to check the vice of intemperance. the Resident is confident that the Durbar

will

will make every effort to bring their policy into line with that of British India.

10. In these circumstances I am to request that they will take into their consideration the points indicated in this letter and favour the Resident with their further views in the matter at an early date.

I have the honour to be,

Sir,

Your most obedient servant,

Sd/ [illegible]

For First Assistant Resident.